

14-1718-51

MOTION

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

The voters of the State of California passed on November 4, 2014 Proposition 1, a \$7.5 billion bond to fund vital water projects throughout the state.

Chapter 8 of that bond authorizes the California Water Commission (CWC) to issue \$2.7 billion in grants for water storage projects, including "groundwater storage projects and groundwater contamination prevention or remediation projects that provide water storage benefits."

The San Fernando Basin is assumed to contain 504,475 acre-feet of storage space, a portion of which could be developed for usable storage. Los Angeles possesses the right to pump and store water in the San Fernando Basin.

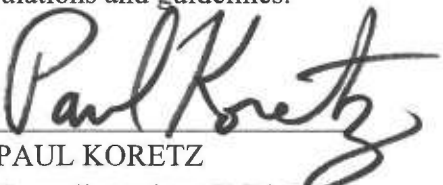
The Basin's groundwater is contaminated with numerous volatile organic compounds which render parts of the basin unusable. The cost to clean up the contamination, as proposed by the Department of Water and Power, is in the range of \$600-900 million. Obtaining and expending the funds to clean up the contamination would increase available water supply in the San Fernando Basin today, and ensure it could be a continued groundwater storage resource in the future, reducing overall reliance on imported water.

Proposition 1 requires the CWC, by December 15, 2016, to develop and adopt methods to quantify and manage the public benefits that are eligible for funding under Chapter 8. CWC discussions on Chapter 8 funding criteria will provide clarity on the eligibility of projects like the San Fernando Basin Remediation Project with respect to legislative requirements, including the requirement for funded projects to provide measureable improvements to the ecosystem of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta or its tributaries.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request that the Department of Water and Power submit comments to the California Water Commission urging that regulations produced to guide distribution of Chapter 8 funds support the legislature's intent that those projects be available for groundwater improvement projects.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council request that the Department of Water and Power prepare and submit a timely application for Chapter 8 or other applicable Proposition 1 funds for the San Fernando Basin Remediation Project if it is deemed eligible under the developed implementation regulations and guidelines.

PRESENTED BY:

  
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:





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